

CONFIDENTIAL CONTROL

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY: West Germany

REPORT NO.:

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] Attitude on Second  
Term for Heuss

DATE OF INFO.:

DATE ACQUIRED:

DATE OF REPORT: 5 May 1954

DATE ACQUIRED:

REFERENCES:

SOURCE. SOURCE EVALUATION. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT:

1. SPD Chairman Erich Ollenhauer stated at an [REDACTED] informal conference [REDACTED] that he personally favored Federal President Professor Dr. Theodor Heuss for a second term. He said that the SPD was naturally displeased with Heuss's submission to Chancellor Adenauer on the EDC and the constitutional amendments. He also believes that a motion for SPD endorsement of Heuss would meet considerable opposition in the ranks of the party's Bundestag delegates. He was sure, however, that he could convince a majority to vote for Heuss on the grounds that there simply was no available alternative candidate with reasonable appeal who would have a chance to unseat Heuss now that the CDU had officially come out for a second term. Opposition for the sake of opposition, he said, would be a waste of effort.
2. Once he had convinced his audience of the reasonableness of his approach, he informed them that he had already told Heuss of his decision when Heuss sent his principal aide, Dr. Manfred Klaiber, to contact Ollenhauer in the subject.

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